



Clemson Anderson Soccer Alliance

Rules and Regulations

Effective August 1, 2010

All policies are subject to revision. Concerns and Issues will be reviewed on a case by case basis following the below guidelines.

Clemson Anderson Soccer Alliance (CASA) does hereby adopt and publish such rules and regulations for youth players, in compliance with and as may be required by national or state associations with which the club has chosen to affiliate, as determined by the Club's Board of Directors to be necessary and appropriate for the operation of an organized soccer program.

Section 1

- A. The Club shall make every effort to enter teams in the following age divisions, which are compromised, of players who are born, before the first day of August of the current season.

Under 19 years of age
Under 18 years of age
Under 17 years of age
Under 16 years of age
Under 15 years of age
Under 14 years of age
Under 13 years of age
Under 12 years of age
Under 11 years of age
Under 10 years of age

- B. Each player shall furnish proof of age at the time of initial registration with the club. Therefore, no further proof of age shall be required so long as uninterrupted year-to-year registration status is maintained with the Club. Acceptable proof of age shall be an official birth certificate, passport or alien registration card issued by the United States Government or Certificate of Naturalization issued by the Immigration and Naturalization service.
- C. All players must be registered with the Club and have paid all fees established by the Club's Board of Directors before participating in a practice or game with a Club team.
- D. The Club and all players will be affiliated with South Carolina Youth Soccer. The Clubs Board will determine with which leagues and additional associations or recreation commissions the Club will affiliate.
- E. The Board will annually set the amount of registration fees to e collected from each player registering with the Club.

Section 2

Tournament Travel Expectations

CASA recognizes the value and special significance in participating in Tournaments outside of our immediate area. There are many benefits to this type of travel including:

- Gaining experience in playing higher level of competition
- Playing in a high pressure atmosphere
- Building team camaraderie
- Seeing and playing against different styles of play
- Participating in a professional soccer environment
- Showcase our Teams and Players to the outside soccer community
- In order to present ourselves in the best possible light as players, teams and as CASA, we have adopted some guidelines that all players and teams should follow.

A. Team Behavior Rules

- Coach, players, and parents should review and agree on general travel behavior requirements and consequences if violations are committed.
- **At the coach's discretion, players may be sent home at parent's additional expense if they violate serious behavior rules related to drugs, drinking, illegal activities, tobacco products or having members of the opposite sex in rooms at any time.**

B. Player Responsibilities

- Because of the importance of tournament play to the development of a team, all CASA players are expected to participate in every event unless injured.
- The Club insists on making player safety the top priority when players are traveling.
- Players are to act like young ladies and gentlemen at all times in any public places.
- Each Player is required to be where the Coach wants you to be at the time the Coach sets.
- No one goes anywhere alone or leaves the hotel without the expressed permission of the Head Coach.
- Hotel rooms must be kept neat and organized.
- We are guests of the hotel. Footwear and proper attire should be worn in the public areas of the hotel. Our reputation for future stays by Club teams are on the line.
- Players are to be punctual and strictly follow all curfews.
- Any problems must be communicated to the Coach immediately.
- **REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE CASA!!**

C. Team Activities

- The Coach will determine all soccer and non-soccer activities during the trip.
- Parents and players should remember that team activities take priority over any personal agendas you may have.
- Soccer trips are not vacations. Obviously having fun is a part of all trips but we must remember that soccer must remain the top priority at all time.

D. Guest Players

- Guest players are invited to play at the discretion of the Team Coach.
- They will be expected to pay their share of team expenses unless other arrangements have been directed by the Team Coach.

Section 3

Uniforms

Regular Club uniforms (jerseys, shorts and socks) will be purchased by each player and will be worn for all league and tournament games. All players (except keepers) are expected to wear the “standard issue” orange and/or blue uniforms while representing CASA during the regulation game. The head coach of each team may specify what color combinations of jersey, shorts and socks will be worn for a particular game. Failure of the team to wear club official uniform during games will result in the Head Coach being fined.

Section 4

Practice

Players who cannot attend regularly scheduled CASA practice sessions are asked not to accept a position on the team. Players who miss CASA practice without good and acceptable cause may be dropped from the roster. Players may also be dropped because of disciplinary problems. Dropping a player from a team must be approved by the DOC and Board of Directors and must comply with the SCYS Rules and Guidelines. Any player in the Club can and will be allowed to practice with another team within the Club. **Both coaches** must agree that it will benefit the team, Club and player. We will also encourage players to utilize this opportunity to improve their skills.

Section 5

Play Time

Players on travel teams are not guaranteed any amount of playing time. Substitutions during games are at the sole discretion of the Head Coach.

Section 6

League Travel

Games will be played both within South Carolina and outside of the state as scheduled by the Head Coach. The Head Coach is responsible to ensure the team travels with the proper forms as approved and required by SCYS.

Section 7

Work Program (Scholarships)

Those individuals requesting scholarship coverage must fill out a scholarship/financial aid form. The scholarship committee will approve or disapprove all scholarships and review them on a season /season basis. The forms will be turned into the Treasurer for record keeping and analysis of cost/value to the club. A report to the board of directors on all scholarships is required on a season-to-season basis. Applicants can also raise monies for paying dues through several of the clubs fund raising activities. Should someone need additional aid then the Executive Directors of the club will handle such requests.

The work program (Scholarships) will be available to all club members; however those families needing financial assistance will have priority in the program. Interested families will need to complete an application to be considered for the work program. Work program duties will include but not be limited to the following: field cleanup, field maintenance, concessions, tournament volunteer, in kind volunteer work, and office assistance (as needed).

Section 8

Try Outs/Team Selection

- All players will try out with their own age group. **Exception to this rule is for CASA players interested playing in college can tryout up if younger, i.e. 9th Grader playing U15, 10th playing U16, 11th playing U17, 12th playing U18
- Players may try out older.
 - To be selected you need to be deemed in the top 1 or 2 players on the older team.
- If a player comes late in the season, then the player tries out with the top team first.
- NO player chooses the team they play on.

Section 9

Dress Code

- No player will practice shirtless
- Proper gear will only be accepted (no shorty shorts on girls)
- Coaches are to wear CASA gear.

Section 10

Problem Solving Procedure

Every effort will be made to address problems or concerns of our members in a fair and consistent manner. In the event of a disagreement the following problem-solving procedure is available. Please respect the 24-hour rule while initiating the process.

24 HOUR RULE - Games are extremely emotional for players, parents and coaches. Parents and coaches should not discuss individual player problems concerning the team or their child for 24 hours following a game or training session. This allows all a cooling off time and opportunity to discuss the child without the emotion of the game or training session as well as avoid regrettable public confrontation.

- **Step 1 – Discussion with Team Coach:** The member first discusses his/her issues or concerns with the coach.
- **Step 2 – Discussion with Director of Coaching:** If the coach is not available, or after a discussion with the coach the issue is not resolved, or the member believes it would be inappropriate to contact this person, he/she can present the issue to the Director of Coaching.
- **Step 3 – Discussion with Executive Director:** If the member is not satisfied with this discussion, it can then be presented to the Executive Director. If the results of this meeting are not satisfactory, the member can proceed with the next step.
- **Step 4 – Discussion with President:** This will be the final step to resolve the situation before the matter goes to the Executive Director.

Section 11

Serious Infractions of the Code of Conduct

The DOC will take any disciplinary action against any coach, player or parent after an investigation of all facts and evidence surrounding an incident has been completed. A committee comprised of the club President, one Executive Director and one coach will conduct all hearings and reviews. The committee will recommend to the Board the appropriate disciplinary actions to be handed out. The Board will meet and vote on the committees report. At a minimum the following list of punishment will be imposed based on violations of the code of conduct.

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| 1. Ejection from the game | Minimum one game suspension |
| 2. Unsportsmanlike Conduct | Minimum one game suspension |
| 3. Profanity | Minimum one game suspension |
| 4. Threatening of an official | Season suspension |
| 5. Striking of an official, player or parent | Indefinite suspension |
| 6. Damaging an officials property | Indefinite suspension plus a report filed with Anderson County Law enforcement |
| 7. Bringing alcohol or drugs into a complex | Season suspension |
| 8. Fighting (players) | Minimum two game suspension |
| 9. Fighting (coaches and fans) | Season suspension |
| 10. Repeat offender of minor violations | Minimum three game suspension |

COACHES EXPECTATIONS

Each CASA coach is appointed by the Director of Coaching (DOC) and approved by the Executive Director. The coach's sole responsibility is to instruct and guide the assigned team. Their duties are outlined as follows:

- Select a team manager and volunteer coordinator
- Select and transferring players from a roster with the assistance of the Evaluators and DOC
- Determine tactics and formations
- Determine playing positions
- Determine playing time
- Determine times for training sessions
- Establish training techniques under the direction of DOC
- Select competition calendar under the direction of the DOC
- Secure suitable substitute coach if unable to attend for any reason and notify DOC of change
- Maintain good communication with team manager with regard to team finances and projected budgets
- Promote club philosophy
- Assist managers with fee collection when needed
- Attend any coaches meetings
- Lead by example – be a positive role model
- Create, nurture and protect each child's feelings of self worth.
- Create and inspire a passion and respect for the game.
- Communicate with those whom you lead as you would wish to be communicated with by those who lead you.
- Develop the player's appreciation of the game.
- Be sensitive to each player's developmental needs.
- Educate the players to the technical, tactical, physical and psychological demands of the game for their level.
- Conduct practices in a spirit of enjoyment and learning.
- Strive to help each player reach their full potential.
- Set high standards of discipline and sportsmanship.
- Instill knowledge and enjoyment of the game.
- Encourage players to strive for excellence through competition.
- Communicate with parents.
- Provide players with annual player evaluations.
 - U10 Once a season (End of season)
 - U11-U14 Two a season (After 1st month and at the end of season)
 - U15-U18 Once a season (end of season).

PARENT EXPECTATIONS

Role of the Parent

The role that parents play in the life of a soccer player has a tremendous impact on their experience. With this in mind, we have taken some time to write down some helpful reminders for all of us as we approach the upcoming season. If you should have any questions about these thoughts, please feel free to discuss them with the coaches. Please do not use your team manager as a communication link on soccer specific issues. Speak to your coach regarding these matters.

- **Let the coach's coach:** Leave the coaching to the coaches. This includes motivating your child for practice, after-game-critiquing, setting goals, requiring additional training, etc. You have entrusted the care of your player to these coaches and they need to be free to do their job. If players have too many coaches, it is confusing for them and their performance usually declines.
- **Support the program:** Get involved. Volunteer. Help out with fundraisers, car-pool, anything to support the program.
- **Be your child's best fan:** Support your child unconditionally. Do not withdraw love when your child performs poorly. Your child should never have to perform to win your love.
- **Encourage your child to practice at home:** It is important; if your child is to reach their full potential that they practice their skills at home. Encourage them to spend at least 15 minutes every day manipulating the ball-you will be amazed how quickly their ball skills improve.
- **Support and root for all players on the team:** Foster teamwork. Your child's teammates are not the enemy. When they are playing better than your child, your child now has a wonderful opportunity to learn.
- **Do not bribe or offer incentives:** Your job is not to motivate. Leave this to the coaching staff. Bribes will distract your child from properly concentrating in practice and game situations.
- **Encourage your child to talk with the coaches:** If your child is having difficulties in practice or games, or can't make a practice, etc., encourage them to speak directly to the coaches. Allowing them to take this responsibility fosters their individual growth and maturity. By handling the off-field tasks, your child is claiming ownership of all aspects of the game – preparation for life, as well as playing the game.
- **Understand and display appropriate game behavior:** Remember your child's self-esteem and game performance is at stake. Be supportive, cheer, and be appropriate. To perform to the best of their abilities, players need to focus on the parts of the game that they can control (their fitness, positioning, decision making, skill, aggressiveness and what the game is presenting them). If they start focusing on what they cannot control

(the condition of the field, the referee, the weather, the opponent, even the outcome of the game at times), they will not play up to their ability. If they hear a lot of people telling them what to do, or yelling at the referee, it diverts their attention away from the task at hand.

I will....

- Be encouraging, supportive and affirmative in regard to my child's play on the field
- Respect officials and accept their decisions
- Support the coach, manager and the team
- Volunteer my services and talents to the Club when possible
- Familiarize myself with the Laws of the Game
- Comply with the rules, policies, and procedures of the team and the club as they apply to me.
- Discuss my child
 1. only with my coach
 2. not with the manager or any other person
 3. only at a time mutually agreed up on by the coach
 4. never prior to, during or directly after a game

Further I will never...

- Engage in dissent directed to an official
- Engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach manager, player or parent
- Interfere at any time with the duties and responsibilities of the coach or manager
- Act in any way that is detrimental to the team or Clemson Anderson Soccer Alliance

Nurture Independence and Responsibility

- Make it your child's responsibility to pack their own uniform in their soccer bag, to clean their soccer cleats and to bring their own water bottle
- Players should be reminded to take responsibility for their own performance and to not place blame on others.
- Allow your child freedom to practice with his or her team without your active presence and evaluation. You will provide your child with another opportunity to behave independently of your scrutiny.
- This "responsibility taking" is a significant part of maturing. Your child's handling of these tasks on and off the field complete his "ownership" of all aspects of being a soccer player.

Uphold Your Commitments

- Foster an environment focused on development, enjoyment and good sportsmanship

- Fulfill your financial commitments
- Support and maintain CASA's philosophy on youth development

PLAYER EXPECTATIONS

The players are selected by a panel consisting of the Head Coach, Director of Coaching and qualified evaluators in the presence of a validator. The coach's commitment to the player and the player's commitment to the team/club is for the entire competitive season. It is important that players observe the guidelines established by the Club, League and State Associations

As a player I will . . .

- Train and play to the best of my ability
- Have a positive attitude and never quit
- Play to win by skillful means, not by foul play
- Work for the good of the team
- Win without boasting and exemplify sportsmanship
- Respect officials and accept their decisions without question
- Only give positive encouragement to fellow teammates
- Win or lose, enjoy the game
- Be gracious when I lose
- Arrive prepared for all games and training sessions, i.e. proper mental attitude and equipment
- Respect my coach, teammates and opponents
- Learn and obey the Laws of the Game, the team and the club and play within them at all times.
- Practice soccer skills and condition on my own
- Notify the coach or team manager if I will be tardy or unable to make a practice game or meeting
- Conduct myself with honor and dignity at all times

Further as a player I will never...

- Allow my enthusiasm and commitment for soccer to override my responsibilities to my education
- Use profane or vulgar language
- Use a controlled substance unless prescribed by a physician
- Leave the field or a session without the permission of the coach
- Disregard any instructions of my coach
- Forget that I represent Clemson Anderson Soccer Alliance